



AGRI MAGAZINE

(International E-Magazine for Agricultural Articles)

Volume: 02, Issue: 10 (October, 2025)

Available online at <http://www.agrimagazine.in>

© Agri Magazine, ISSN: 3048-8656

New Tech, Old Wisdom: *Ghanjeevamrit*

*Mr. B. D. Makwana and Dr. S. P. Deshmukh

College of Natural Farming, Gujarat Natural Farming Science University,
Amreli, Gujarat, India

*Corresponding Author's email: makwanabhaumik9898@gmail.com

The current trajectory of agriculture, heavily reliant on synthetic chemical fertilizers and pesticides, has placed an immense burden on the ecological health of the land and the economic stability of farmers. In states like Gujarat, where agriculture forms the backbone of the economy, decades of imbalanced fertilizer use have led to severe soil degradation, diminished water retention, and escalating input costs for farmers. This crisis has catalyzed a decisive shift toward sustainable alternatives. The movement toward natural farming an integrated, chemical-free approach is gaining significant momentum as farmers realize its promise of rejuvenating the soil, ensuring food safety, and dramatically reducing cultivation expenses. This traditional yet highly scientific system empowers farmers to work in harmony with nature, using local resources to restore the vitality of their fields.



What is Natural Farming?

Natural Farming in the Indian context is a holistic agricultural production system in tandem with the laws of nature to provide food for all living beings ensuring production without harming the panchmahaboota or panchtatva (Prithvi, Agni, Jal, Vaayu and Aakash). Natural farming, also known as chemical-free farming, is a sustainable agricultural approach that emphasizes the use of natural inputs and processes to cultivate crops and raise livestock. It is based on the principles of ecological balance, biodiversity, and self-sufficiency.

Natural farming is an agricultural practice that emphasizes working in harmony with nature to cultivate crops without relying on synthetic chemicals, fertilizers, or genetically modified organisms (GMOs). Instead, it focuses on preserving and enhancing the natural resources of the farm ecosystem, such as soil health, biodiversity, and water conservation. The primary goal of natural farming is to produce food in a way that is environmentally sustainable, economically viable, and socially responsible.

Embracing natural farming is a crucial step towards sustainable agriculture, focusing on soil health over chemical dependence. *Ghanjeevamrit*, a key component, is a solid microbial culture made from indigenous cow dung, urine, and other natural ingredients. We use it to enrich the soil with beneficial microorganisms, acting as a potent bio-fertilizer. This practice enhances soil fertility, improves water retention, and minimizes input costs. By integrating *Ghanjeevamrit*, farmers foster a vibrant soil ecosystem, leading to healthier crops and a more eco-friendly, resilient farming system, moving away from harmful synthetic chemicals.

One of the most important components of natural farming: *Ghanjeevamrit*

Central to the natural farming philosophy is the use of bio-cultures that act as a powerhouse for microbial life in the soil. Among the most essential of these is *Ghanjeevamrit*. which translates to 'solid microbial life-nectar.'

Ghanjeevamrit, a solid microbial culture, is a key component of natural farming and is essentially a dried version of *Jeevamrit*. There are a few common processes for its preparation, usually depending on the availability of ingredients.

Unlike chemical fertilizers that are rapidly consumed and often leach away, *Ghanjeevamrit* works by inoculating the soil with trillions of beneficial microorganisms.

These microbes break down organic matter and existing soil nutrients, making them readily available to the crops. It is typically applied as a top dressing, acting as a slow-release soil conditioner and bio-fertilizer that radically enhances soil fertility, structure, and water-holding capacity, effectively eliminating the need for external chemical inputs.

Here are two primary methods for its preparation, often used by farmers:



The Simple Dry Mix Method

- This is the most direct and common method for preparing a storable form of *Ghanjeevamrit*.

Ingredients (Approx. per 1 Acre)		Quantity
Desi Cow Dung (fresh or 3-4 days old)		100 kg
Jaggery (Gud)		2 kg
Pulse Flour (Besan/Gram Flour, or any pulse)		2 kg
Virgin Soil (from a forest or under a Banyan tree)		100 g (handful)
Desi Cow Urine		As required (for wetting)
		
		

Process

- Mixing the Dry Ingredients:** Spread the cow dung evenly on a shaded surface.
- Adding the Culture Food:** Mix the powdered jaggery, pulse flour, and virgin soil thoroughly with the cow dung.

3. **Moistening (Activation):** Lightly sprinkle cow urine over the mixture and mix well. The mixture should be just moist enough to hold its shape when squeezed (like a mud ball), but not wet.
4. **Drying and Powdering:** Leave the mixture to dry in the **shade** for 5 to 6 days. Once dried, break it up and grind it into a powder or small granules.
5. **Storage:** Store the finished *Ghanjeevamrit* in a jute or cloth bag in a cool, dry place.

Bed Method

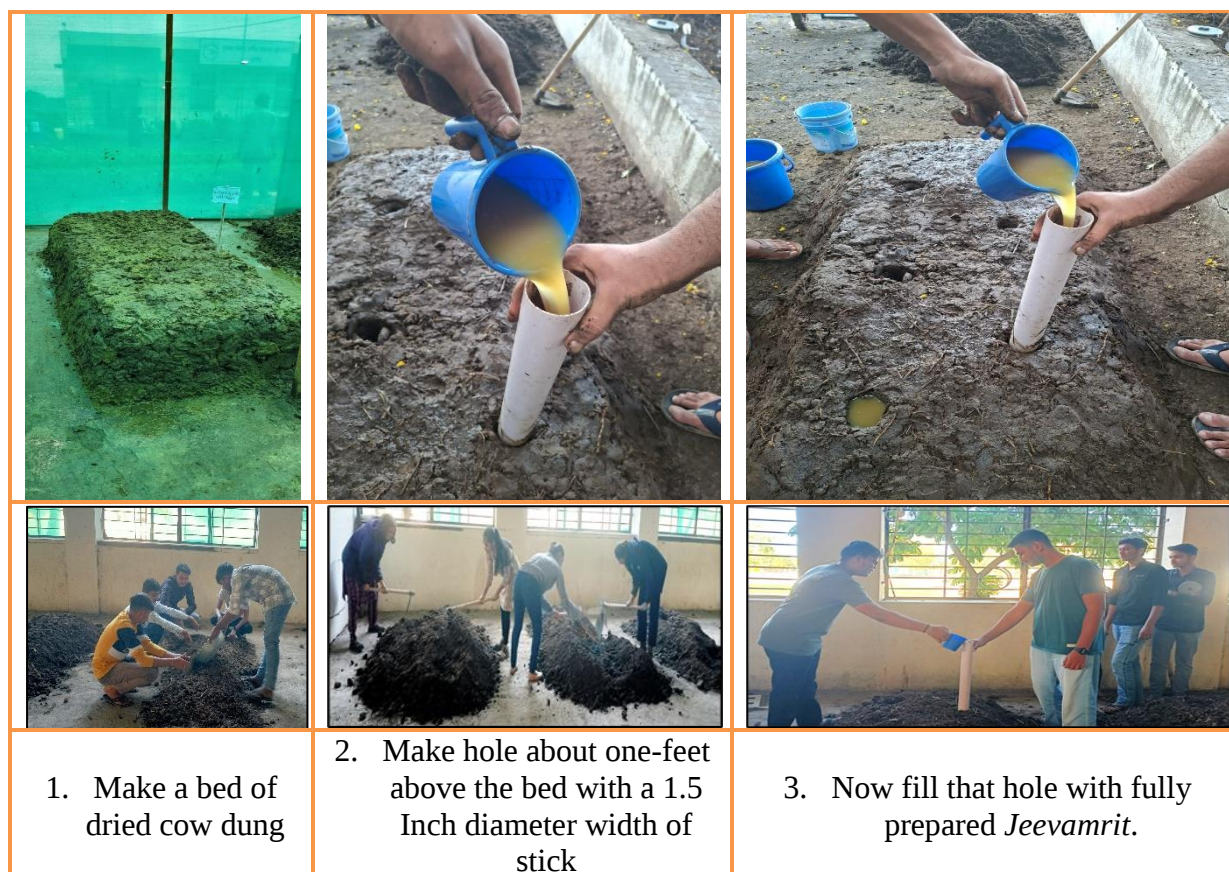
- Make a bed of dried cow dung.
- One and a half feet high and three feet wide (however long it will take).
- Make hole about one-foot above the bed with a 1.5 Inch diameter width of stick. Again, zigzag holes at one-foot interval (as show in the picture).
- Now fill that hole with fully prepared *Jeevamrit*.
- The *Jeevamrit* will spread itself into the bed.
- Now let it put down for seven days.
- After seven days shovel it, and again make a bed out of it in the same manner. Like the previous one, make hole at a distance of one-feet.
- Fill this hole with *Jeevamrit* and let it ripen again for seven days.
- After seven days, the *Ghanjeevamrit* will be ready.
- Remember to keep the bed out of direct sunlight and rainwater.
- Prepared *Ghanjeevamrit* can be used directly, if it is to be stored, dry it in strong sun heat. Then store it in a dry place by filling it in a jute bag.

How to Use?

- This can be used for up to 6 months. 9 to 10 quintals per acre in the first year, 5 quintals per acre in the second year and 2 quintals per acre in subsequent years will be good.

Benefits:

- Enhances the availability of nutrients through faster decomposition of bulky organic manures by boosting the microbial activity in the soil.



References

1. Kumar, Sumit. (2023). Ghanajeevamrit and Jeevamrit: Chemical free Bio-formulations. *Agri Articles*, 03(03): 416-418. (MAY-JUNE, 2023).
2. Meera Devi, Anurag S., Arti S., Amit V., Inder D., Chandel RS, Jitender C., Sudhir V., Renu K., Bharti, Rajesh R., Parvender S., Mohit. (Early Access). Impact of Jeevamrit and Ghanajeevamrit on soil properties and productivity of kiwi fruit. *Plant Science Today*. <https://doi.org/10.14719/pst.7597>.
3. Palekar, S. (2016). *Zero Budget Natural Farming*. <http://palekarzerobudgetspiritualfarming.org>. (Note: While this is a general reference for the underlying philosophy, Ghanajeevamrit is a key component of this system. It is cited in a paper discussing the impact of Ghanajeevamrit.) (Source: Snippet 1.2)